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The Right Honorable the Lord *xl lx*
Mayor, Court of Aldermen, and
Common-Council Assembled.

THE HUMBLE
PETITION

OF THE

INHABITANTS

In and About

LONDON:

IN

[The Behalf of Themselves and
Others.

L O N D O N, Printed for T. M.

January 1659

NO. 1 A 1 B 1

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Sheweth,



That your Petitioners are sadly sensible, that the late bloody Wars which were between the late King and Parliament, were for want of free and frequent Parliaments; witnesse that irreconcilable Breach, made, by his late Majesty's Force, upon the House of Commons: For five Members onely to be tried by Law, could never be forgotten, which made them take Arms for and in defence of Free and Frequent Parliaments; Witnesse those two famous Acts, granted by the King, for a Triennial Parliament; and that these might sit as long as they pleased, without disturbance. Yet, neverthelesse, that Traitor to the Free-born People of *England*, *Cromwell*, contrary to all Oaths and Engagements in 1648, by Violence turned out the major part of the House of Commons, with the whole House of Lords, onely to satisfy his own ambitious Ends; and in 1653 dissolved the rest, to the great grief of all the well-affected in the Land: and now it hath pleased the Lord to suffer those which were raised for their and our defence, have become their and our ruines: And now having no lawfull Authority left us, in the Land, but this Honourable Court; therefore your Petitioners do humbly begge that your Lordship, and this Honourable Court, would do your utmost endeavour to free this City and Nation of those Perjuries which lye upon Us, for not keeping that Protestation and Covenant, made and taken by a Free Parliament, and all the Commonalty of the three Nations, in these words: *I A. B. do, in the presence of Almighty God, promise, vow, and protest to maintain and defend, as far as lawfully I may, with my Life, Power & Estate, the true Protestant Religion, expressed in the Doctrine of the Church of England, against Popery and Popish Innovations within this Realm, contrary to the same Doctrine, & according to the Duty of my Allegiance to his Majesty's Royall Person. Honour, and Estate, as also the Power and Priviledge of Parliament, the lawfull Rights and Liberties of the Subjects, and every Person that maketh this Protestation in whatsoever he shall do in*

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pursuance of the same, and to my power, and as far as lawfully I may, I will oppose, and by all good waies and means endeavour, to bring to condigne Punishment, all such as shall either by Force, Practise, Counsels, Plots, Conspiracies, or otherwise do any thing in this present Protestation contained; and farther, that I shall in all just and honourable wayes, endeavour to preserve the Union and Peace between the three Kingdoms of England, Scotland, and Ireland; neither for hope, fear, nor other Respect, shall relinquish this Promise, Vow, and Protestation.

The second is the Solemn League and Covenant, taken in the most solemn manner, with hands lifted up to Heaven, and subscribed by all Members of Parliament in England, and Scotland, by all Civil and Military Officers, Souldiers, and Well-affected persons, in the Three Kingdoms, by sundry special Ordinances of Parliament, approving and ratifying the same in these words: *That we shall sincerely, really, and constantly, through the Grace of God, endeavour, in our severall Places and Callings, the Preservation of the Reformed Religion, in the Church of Scotland, Worship and Doctrine, Discipline and Government according to the Word of God, and the Example of the best Reformed Churches, and shall endeavour to bring the Churches of God in the three Kingdoms to the neereſt Conjunction and Uniformity in Religion, Confession of Faith, Form of Church Government, directory for Worship and Catechizing, that we, and our Posterity after Us, may as Brethren, live in Faith and Love; that the Lord may delight to dwell in the midst of Us; that we shall, with the same sincerity, really and constantly in our severall Vocations, endeavour with our Estates and Lives, mutually to preserve the Rights and Priviledges of the Parliaments, and the Liberties of the Kingdoms, that the World may bear witness with our Consciences of our Loyalty, & that we have no thoughts or intentions to diminish his Majesty's just Power and Greatnesſe. These with many other things were subscribed by William Lenthall Speaker, Sir Henry Vane Junior, and all that Free Parliament then sitting, and concluded in these words; And this Covenant we make in the presence of Almighty God, the searcher of all hearts, with a true Intention to perform the same, as we shall answer at that day, when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed.*

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These are the Covenants, with many more, which, through the breach of them, hath caused *England* to mourn, and blood hath touched blood; yet my Lord, and this Honourable Court, be not discouraged, for there is hope in *Israel* concerning this thing. in that it hath pleased the Lord to put it into your Honours hearts, to proclaim a Solemn Fast in this our sinfull *Nineveh*; who knows, but that if we Resolve to keep our Covenants with him, and turn to the Lord with Fasting, weeping, and mourning, who knows but that he may leave a blessing behind him, and give us our Rulers as at the first, and our Judges as at the beginning; for we have his own words for it, that cannot lye: when mens wayes please the Lord, he can make their enemies to be at peace with them; but if not, he hath a hook in the Nostrills of all those *Sennacheribs* that rise up against his Church and people, and will bring them back from whence they came, to their low degrees; therefore fear them not, for they are such as are described in 2 *Tim.* 3. Disobedient to Parents, unthankfull, unholy, without natural affection, Covenant-breakers, False accusers, Traytors, heady, High-minded, having a shew of Godlinesse, but denied the power thereof, as *Jannes* and *Jambrose* withstood *Moses*; so do these also resist the truth, men of corrupt minds, but these shall prevail no longer; for their madnesse shall be evident to all men (as theirs also was). Hear what the Lord saith in *Ezekiell* 17. ver. 18. seeing these who despised the Oath by breaking the Covenant, when loe, they had given their hands, and done all these things, they shall not escape.

See two fearfull Judgments of Gods hatred upon two perjur'd persons; the first is upon the usurping Emperour *Randolph* Duke of *Sweadland*: Pope *Hilderbrand* Antichristianly Excommunicating his Sovereign the Emperour, *Henry* the III. and absolving his Subjects from their Allegiance to him, profered the Empire to this Duke *Randolph*, who remembring his Oath of Allegiance, sworn by him to this Emperour, and how ill a part it would be for him to betray, or supplant him he had sworn to obey and defend, at first had refused the Popes offer; yet afterwards by the Sophistry of some Bishops, he accepted, and took upon him the title of Emperour, opposing his Liege Lord *Henry*, in four several Battles Fought between them for the Empire, in the last whereof being vanquished, he was sore wounded, and lost his right hand. When he was ready to dye
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of his wounds, one brought his right hand (cut off in the battell) unto him, which he beholding, with much regret, in detestation of his perjury and treachery, through the Popes violence, brake forth into these memorable words, in the presence of many Bishops, who had perswaded him to this Rebellion; *Behold here the Right hand wherewith I swore Faith and Allegiance to my Liege Lord the Emperour Henry, I his will be an Argument of my breach of Faith before God, and of your Traiterous impulsion and advice thereunto: which having uttered, he immediately expired of his wounds, in a kind of a despairing manner, as the just punishment of his perjury.*

The second is *Vladislaus* King of *Hungary*, who having made a truce with *Amurath* the I I. the V I. King of the *Turks*, which he sealed, and swore unto in the name of Christ; by the command of Pope *Eugenius*, and perswasions of his Legat, Cardinal *Julian*, and other Prelates, who absolved him from this Oath, he violated it in a most perfidious manner, and soon after taking *Amurath* unprovided to Fight, giving him battle at *Varna* with a present Army, and was likely to rout him upon the first incounter, upon which occasion, *Amurath* being in extream fear and danger, beholding the Crucifix in the displaid Ensigns of the Christians; plucked the writing out of his bosome, wherein the League was comprised, and holding it in his hands, with his Eyes cast up to Heaven, used these words, *Behold thou Crucified Christ, this is the League these Christians in thy name have made, and sworn to me, which yet they have, without any Cause on my part violated; Now if thou be a God, as they say thou art, and as we dream; Revenge the wrong now done unto thy Name, and me; and shew thy power upon this Perjurious people, who in their Deeds deny thee to be their God.* Upon the uttering of which words, the Battle presently turned, *Hunniades* that valiant Generall, and the *Hungarians* fled, the whole Army was routed, many thousands of them slain and taken Prisoners, perjur'd King *Vladislaus*, Cardinal *Julian*, with most of the Prelates and Nobles, who perswaded him to this breach of Faith, slain in the field, the greatest part of *Hungary* over-run, gained, and ever since possessed by the *Turks*, *Vladislaus* his head cut off in the battell, after was fixed on a pole, carried through *Grecia* and *Asia* in triumph; and shewed to the people as a Monument of Gods Justice on him for his perjury. Oh that all perjur'd persons would consider, that if Judgment begin

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begins at the house of God, as we know by sad experience it hath done, then what will become of those that will not obey the Gospel of Christ, which saith *Luke 3. ver. 14.* that Souldiers should do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely, and be content with their wages.

F I N I S.

